

NPA

(INDOOR / FOUR-WALL)

National Paddleball Association

WWW.PADDLEBALL.ORG

NPA, 7642 Kingston, Portage, Mich. 49002

NEWSLETTER / WINTER 2005-2006



It was an exciting final week of 2005 in Michigan as two of the all-time great paddleballers played some exhibition matches. Steve Keeley (left) won seven national titles and Charlie Brumfield captured four. See Page 4 for details.

PB's missing link is guy named Hoyle

By LOU GIAMPETRONI

Randy Hoyle has been the missing link at NPA tournaments in recent years.

Hoyle, of Midland, Mich., for years was a top-level open paddleballer who could give any of the best a tussle.

As a matter of fact, he once was a whisker away from getting into a national open singles final in 1995.

But his familiar face has been missing at tournaments in recent years.

Please see HOYLE, Page 2

Have
you
hugged
your
paddle
today?



NPA schedule

MIDWEST SINGLES:

Seasonal Concepts Club,
Bloomingdale, Ill., Jan. 20, 21,
22, 2006.

MIDWEST DOUBLES:

Michigan Athletic Club, E.
Lansing, Mich., Feb. 24, 25,
26, 2006.

NATIONAL SINGLES:

Sorrento Valley Racquet Club,
San Diego, CA, March 24, 25,
26, 2006.

NATIONAL DOUBLES:

University of Michigan, Ann
Arbor, Mich., April 21, 22, 23,
2006.



Randy Hoyle

HOYLE

Continued from Page 1

Business success and injuries have kept him away from the game.

"I have not been playing paddleball due to a sore back that may require some doctor appointments," he said.

"My knees seem to feel fine but I'm not playing anything so it's tough to tell if they are O.K.

"I really miss playing paddleball, I love the competitive challenge, health benefits, and the many friends for life that have evolved from this great game."

He also has a family that keeps him busy -- wife Jill and three teens aged 13, 15 and 17.

"I started my business 20 years ago, after finding that my career as a construction pipefitter was not fulfilling my abilities financially or as a person who enjoys communicating and helping people," Hoyle said.

"My first customers were paddleball-related, selling paddles and racquet equipment to sports facilities and YMCAs.

"I soon added selling T-shirts and uniforms that fit this market. In time, I found that my construction knowledge would help me at selling gymnastics, volleyball and basketball equipment that needed to be installed in the gyms.

"This also eliminated a lot of the competition and got me contracts with many new educational facilities and universities."

Hoyle said he left his home-based business eight years ago and now has a 7,000-square-foot building that supports 10 employees.

He said his largest volume of sales is "telescoping bleachers that has a gross value of about 3 million per year."

"This is where I get my competitive fix since almost every job will be won or lost from outperforming the competition.

"Looking back, I think I made some good decisions and had good people as customers to help get my company to where it is now."

Hoyle, formerly a long-time member of the NPA Board of Managers, is one of the few players ever to win both the Earl Risky Memorial Trophy and the Sportsmanship Trophy.

We want your ideas

The opinion of every paddleball player counts.

Your NPA board meets every summer to decide the tournament schedule for the upcoming year and to discuss any other items we feel are important.

However, we can't discuss an item we are unaware of.

Please always bring up any items you feel need to be addressed. Everything counts.

You can do that through the Website or by mail to NPA, 7642 Kingston, Portage, MI, 49002.

-- Lorri Brigham, NPA secretary

Muskegon hosts PB tourney

Muskegon, MI -- Thirty players participated in two divisions in a paddleball tournament at the Omni here in November 2005.

They came from Muskegon, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Livonia, Bay City, Lansing and Bloomingdale, Ill.

In Men's Open, Andy Mitchell and Don Kirkconnell topped Charlie Creamer and Brandon Creamer.

In Men's B, Randy Allar and Dick Brouwer finished first and Pete Magar and Mike Fiddie were second.

A donation of \$100 was made to the NPA by Breakaway Bicycles, via Ken Polidan who played in Men's B.

Local officials are hoping to make the tourney an annual event.

2005 FALL DOUBLES RESULTS

(Midland, MI, Community Center, Dec. 2-4)

OPEN: 1st, Andy Mitchell-Don Kirkconnell; 2nd, Jim Owens-Shahebaz Malik.

MEN'S A: 1st, Rick Clewis-Shahebaz Malik; 2nd, John Lowman-Brandon Creamer.

MEN'S B: 1st, John Lowman-Ivar Krauklis; 2nd, Pete Magar-Andy Pappas; 3rd, Dan Snedecor-Dave Hale. Consolation: Jim Richter-Jack Barenfanger.

MEN'S C: 1st, Skip Freysinger-Rick Mountain; 2nd, Randy Allar-Dick Brouwer.

SENIORS: 1st, Mike Wisniewski-Sandy DeGreif; 2nd, Ed Maher-Don Kirkconnell.

MASTERS: 1st, Ron Malecki-Mike Schafer; 2nd, Jim Owens-Paul Chritz.

GOLDEN MASTERS: 1st, Mike Marcum-Larry Quick; 2nd, Dave Hale-Dan Snedecor.

It was the 'Steve and Charlie' show

By LOU GIAMPETRONI

Bay City, Mich. -- A pair of paddleball giants took the stage here Dec. 28, 2005, and it was a show to remember.

Steve Keeley and Charlie Brumfield, who have 11 NPA national championships between them, played several exhibition matches with local players.

Keeley, of Blythe, CA, and Brumfield of San Diego were visiting friends in the Lansing area during the holidays.

Len Baldori, of Haslett, Mich., set up their visit at the Bay Area Family Y and Lansing area.

With Keeley and Brumfield were two young players from Tijuana, Mexico, who soon are expected to be among the best.

They are Guillermo Leyva, 19, and his brother, Gerardo, 16, who played last year in the National Doubles Tournament.

Keeley won five national singles titles and two national doubles championships in the 1970s.



Keeley, with the familiar shoe string instead of a thong.

Brumfield won two singles and two doubles crowns in 1968, 1969 and 1970.

Keeley said he hasn't been playing much paddleball and when he does it's left-handed.

All of his tournament play in the old days was right-handed but he said he has worked on his play from the other side and can do it.

It is amazing how he does do it. He rarely missed a shot he could reach and did an exceptional job of controlling the ball.

In the first match, watched by a large group of fans, Mike Wisniewski, 8-time national singles champ from Bay City, played Guillermo Leyva.

Leyva won the first game, 21-6, and Whiz took the second, 21-11. The young man can really play the game.

There was so much going on that the pair did not play a tiebreaker.

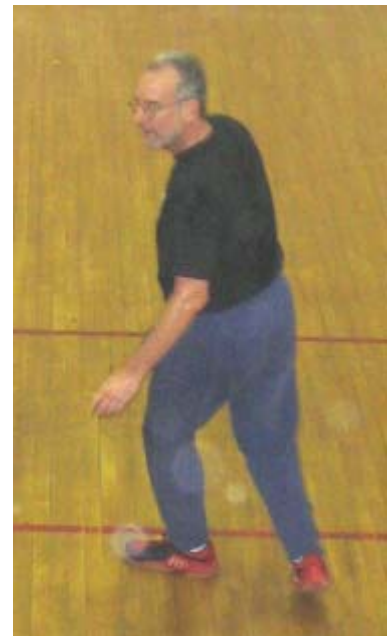
In the second match, Keeley and Brumfield teamed to beat Randy Wackerle and Len Baldori, 21-18.

Then Brumfield and Wackerle topped Keeley and Wisniewski, 21-10.

As the show was winding down, Wackerle edged Keeley, 11-9.

The visitors obviously were a little tired after playing exhibitions the previous day at the Michigan Athletic Club in East Lansing.

Brumfield and Keeley are members of the Paddleball Nation, a West Coast group of ex-paddleball champions turned racquetball champions turned-back to PBallers, and others relatively new to the game.



Brumfield

It is spearheaded by Brumfield.

The West Coast group tied in paddleball tourneys with racquetball tournaments and introduced the game to many racquetballers, some of whom converted to PB.

Riverside, CA, hosted the 2005 National Doubles.



The Leyva brothers: Guillermo (left) and Gerardo

Ex-champs getting their swings in on a fun basis

By LOU GIAMPETRONI

They can still play the game. Exceptionally well.

The “they” are two former NPA national champions who are playing a little “fun” paddleball after a layoff of several years from tournament competition.

The duo: Carla Teare and Anna Sue Thomas, sisters who were eight-time national women’s open doubles champions.

Carla also won five national women’s open singles crowns.

They have been playing on a drop-in basis at the Waterford Courts in the Pontiac, Mich., area. Plans are to establish a league to go along with two other leagues at the club.

The sisters didn’t have time for tournaments because of additional job responsibilities.

Carla is an official in the Clarkston, Mich., School District. Anna is a Delphi employee, who once headed the Flint, Mich., East operation.

Carla and Anna eased out of tournament play after losing in the 1998 national women’s open doubles final.

Playing with the sisters is Terry Smith Delcamp, a four-time national women’s open singles titleholder.

Terry has not played in tournaments in recent years either but has been playing in leagues at Waterford.

She just ran out of tourney opponents. The women’s division got smaller and smaller and her last title came in 2000.

There has been a women’s division in only

Ex-paddleball champ grabs golf crown

An ex-paddleball champion won a prestigious golf tourney in October 2005.

Terry Smith Delcamp, of Grand Blanc, Mich., took the Golf Association of Michigan Tournament of Club Champions.

There were 52 women competing at Indianwood Country Club and Terry shot 77 to win by two shots.

She went on to play in the Chrysler Tournament of Club Champions at Innisbrook, Fla., and finished 15th.

Terry also qualified for the Chrysler tournament last year, finishing fourth at Egypt Valley in Grand Rapids, and

then taking third in the Florida tourney.

Terry has been playing in GAM tournaments for about 16 years and this was her first victory.

She has a 2 handicap and plays out of Atlas Valley Country Club, where she has won the championship 12 times.

Terry was the NPA national women’s open singles champion in 1993, 1994, 1999 and 2000.

She also was the recipient in 1994 of the Earl Risky Memorial Trophy, awarded in honor of the founder of PB, for her contributions to the sport.



EX-CHAMPS -- These former NPA champions are playing a little fun paddleball at Waterford Courts in the Pontiac, Mich., area. They are (from left) Terry Smith Delcamp, Carla Teare and Anna Sue Thomas.

one of the last five seasons.

On Nov. 9, I played with Terry against Carla and Anna in a match. All three of them played exceptionally well. They still can do everything on the court, although there obviously was some rust.

But in the immortal words of Steve Wilson, Terry and I “kicked their guts in.”

We won, 19-21, 21-17, 21-20.

Editor's Note: We periodically will recognize persons who have contributed much to the success of the National Paddleball Association over the years.



LARRY PIPER



MARK SMITH



RANDY HOYLE



DON TRAXLER



LOU GIAMPETRONI



JIM PHILLIPS



DON TAYLOR



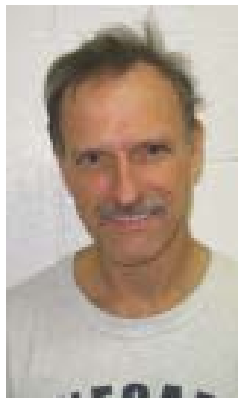
TERI L. DAVIS, JIM EASTERLING, DAN McLAUGHLIN



RANDY HICE

Paddleballs

... can be ordered through Spectrum Sports, 2618 South St. Anthony, Jackson, Mich., 49203 or by calling Gordy Hatt at (517) 784-1861.



Douglas

Paddleball Profile

Like many paddleball players, Brad Douglas thinks the sport needs younger players to participate.

Douglas, a dentist from South Lyon, Mich., began playing PB in the late 1970s.

He also is a former racquetballer who enjoys the exercise “but play because of the people I meet playing and the sense of fair play that is part of the game.”

Douglas won state and national B singles championships and a state B doubles title in the mid-1990s.

He received the NPA’s Sportsmanship Trophy in 1995.

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